Attorney Docket No.: 10758-8

Serial No. 09/848,953

<u>REMARKS</u>

This is a full response to the outstanding Office Action, and is filed with a request and payment for a 1 month extension of time to Respond to the Office Action.

1. Present Status Of The Claims

The Office Action rejects all of pending claims 1-69. Claims 1, 2, 24-25, 47 and 48 are rejected as purportedly being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102 by S. H. Paek et al., "On-line Korean Character Recognition by using Two Types of Neural Networks", 1993, International Joint Conference on Neural Networks, Pages 2113-2116 (*Paek*). Claims 3-15, 20-23, 26-38, 43-46, 49-61 and 66-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as purportedly being unpatentable over *Paek* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,542,006 to Shustorovich et al. (*Shustorovich*).

2. Response To Rejections Of Claims.

Independent claims 1 and 24 each recite a special purpose hardware unit or special purpose hardware to perform the handwriting recognition processing operations. The special purpose hardware enables the claimed system or method to calculate more handwriting recognition calculations than a general purposes processor over a period of time. The cited references, each taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose such a special purpose hardware unit to perform these operations. Thus, claims 1 and 24 are allowable over the cited art.

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The Office Action cites to a portion of *Paek*, page 2114, paragraph 3.1 and 3.2, as purportedly disclosing a special purpose hardware unit to produce a second data item. However, the cited portion of *Paek* discloses computation codes and the structure of a neural network, which are software based, and do not constitute special purpose hardware. Thus, respectfully, *Paek* does not disclose a special purpose hardware unit.

Independent claims 20, 43, 47 and 66 have each been amended to recite special purpose hardware to perform handwriting recognition processing, or model Markov operations, whichever the case may be. Further, the remaining dependent claims, 2-19, 21-23, 25-42, 44-46, 48-65, and 67-69 each depend from one of independent claims 1, 20, 24, 43, 47 and 66. Therefore all of these claims are allowable for the same reasons as claims 1 and 24.

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CONCLUSION

The Applicants have made an earnest and bona fide effort to clarify the issues before the Examiner and to place this case in condition for allowance. In view of the foregoing discussions, it is clear that the cited art, individually or in combination, does not teach all of the elements of any claim, as amended, of the present invention. Thus, the claimed invention is patentably distinct over the prior art. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of all of claims 1-69 is believed to be in order, and an early Notice of Allowance to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ivan Posey, Reg. No. 43,865

BROWN RAYSMAN MILLSTEIN FELDER

& STEINER LLP

1880 Century Park East, Suite 1200

Los Angeles, California 90067

(310) 712-8300

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